Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, South Dakota is known for its strong family traditions—family farms, family businesses, and family vacations; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper for families to come together to share their experiences, exchange their life's stories and dreams, build lifelong relationships, and discover their roots; and,

Whereas, The backbone of our nation is the strength and unifying permanence of the family unit and the family farm; and,

Whereas, In 1884, Heinrich Berger filed homestead claim to 160 acres of land on the NW1/4, Township 112, Range 54W, and the land was deeded to him in 1887; and,

Whereas, The original claim has been passed down through the generations to farm the land, and is currently held in trust by Heinrich's great-grandchildren, with the original home site of 4.5 acres owned by a great-great grandson while other great-great grandsons manage and farm the remaining farmland; and,

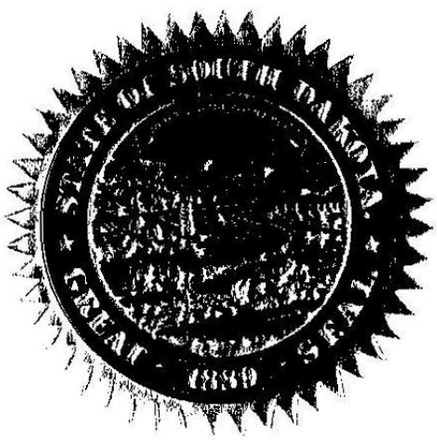
Whereas, This truly devoted family has been gathering every year or two for the past few decades in order to "keep the lines open," to share the pleasure and rewards of each others company, and to celebrate their lives and love for one another, and,

Whereas, On June 26-28, 2009, the Berger-Smith family will gather at the farmstead near Badger, South Dakota, to partake in activities, fun and frolic, and to host an open house for the public on June 27, 2009, in celebration of the 125th Anniversary of the Berger-Smith family farm:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 26-28, 2009, as

BERGER-SMITH FAMILY FARM DAYS

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twelfth Day of June in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.

M. Michael Rounds

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State